Legislative Assembly Management Committee

Annual Report 2007-2008

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

November 26, 2009

To the Honourable
Legislative Assembly of the
Province of British Columbia

Honourable Members:

I have the honour to present herewith the Legislative Assembly Management Committee Report for the period of March 26, 2007 through November 23, 2008 pursuant to the *Legislative Assembly Management Committee Act*.

This all-party Committee was established in 1992 to provide the requisite administrative and financial support to Members of the Legislative Assembly in the discharge of the parliamentary and constituency responsibilities. As the chairperson of the Committee, I would like to thank all committee members for their diligence and hard work.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,

Hon. Bill Barisoff
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

Table of Contents

Composition of the Committee (38th Parliament) i

Committee Process ii

Chronological List of Committee Decisions, 2007-2008 1

Committee Decisions by Subject, 2007-2008 5

- Committee Administration 5
- Constituency Offices 5
- Members' Benefits 6
- Members' Business Travel 6
- Members' Indemnities and Allowances 7
- Parliament Buildings 7
- Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation (April 2007) 8
- Technology and Communications 9

Minutes of Proceedings, 2007-2008 10

Appendix 21

- Legislative Assembly Management Committee Act (RSBC 1996, C. 258)

Composition of the Committee (38th Parliament)

Members

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA *Speaker and Chair*	Penticton - Okanagan Valley
Hon. Michael de Jong, MLA *Government House Leader*	Abbotsford-Mount Lehman
Hon. Gordon Hogg, MLA *Government Caucus Chair (to August 2006)*	Surrey - White Rock
Mr. John Yap, MLA *Government Caucus Chair (from August 2007)*	Richmond - Steveston
Mr. Randy Hawes, MLA *In place of "the Minister"*	Maple Ridge - Mission
Ms. Jenny Kwan, MLA *Official Opposition Caucus Chair*	Vancouver - Mount Pleasant
Mr. Mike Farnworth *Opposition House Leader*	Port Coquitlam - Burke Mountain

Clerk to the Committee

Craig James
Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees

Committee Process

The Legislative Assembly Management Committee was established in 1992 with the enactment of the *Legislative Assembly Management Committee Act*. The Committee comprises the Speaker, a Cabinet Minister, the Government House Leader, the chair of the Government Caucus, the Opposition House Leader, and the chair of the Official Opposition Caucus.

Under the *Legislative Assembly Management Committee Act*, the Committee is empowered to consider any matters necessary for the efficient and effective operation and management of the Legislative Assembly, including reviewing estimates of expenditure for the Legislative Assembly under Vote 1.

This report is the Legislative Assembly Management Committee's eleventh report to the Legislative Assembly. It lists all decisions made by the Committee since its *2006-2007 Annual Report*, which was tabled on May 31, 2007.

Schedule of Meetings

During 2007 and 2008, the Committee held sixteen meetings on the following dates to consider various matters:

- March 26, 2007,
- June 13, 2007,
- June 22, 2007,
- June 29, 2007,
- October 17, 2007,
- October 22, 2007,
- November 26, 2007,
- February 27, 2008,
- March 4, 2008,
- July 8, 2008,
- October 23, 2008,
- November 23, 2008.

Chronological List of Committee Decisions, 2007-2008

1. The Committee agreed that the Minutes of its meetings would be approved at a subsequent meeting of the Committee. (Decision March 26, 2007)
2. The Committee agreed to further investigate the impact of the renovation, restoration and seismic upgrade plans for the Parliament Buildings upon the precinct generally and the Legislative Library specifically; in particular, the effect the project might have on the architectural structure and temporary dislocation of the collections and staff in the Legislative Library. (Decision March 26, 2007)
3. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #8 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
4. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #9 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
5. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #10 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
6. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #11 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
7. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #12 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
8. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #13 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
9. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #14 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
10. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #15 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
11. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #16 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
12. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #17 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
13. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #18 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007)
14. The Committee agreed that it should approve an implementation plan based on the adoption of the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation. (Decision June 22, 2007)

15. The Committee resolved that Recommendation #11 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted in relation to the advice provided by the Legislative Comptroller. (Decision June 29, 2007)

16. The Committee agreed to have screens placed in front of the Southwell Murals while onsite testing continues regarding their removal. (Decision October 17, 2007)

17. The Committee agreed that effective immediately the cost of registration for Members who attend events including but not limited to conferences and seminars will be charged to their constituency funding or caucus global funding accounts and that in attending such events the Member's travel costs will continue to be reimbursed. The Speaker can approve the reimbursement of registration fees from central funding upon application to the Speaker. (Decision October 22, 2007)

18. The Committee agreed to have screens placed in front of the Southwell Murals while onsite testing continues regarding their removal. (Decision October 22, 2007)

19. The Committee resolved that the long term disability plan prepared by Russell and Associates be implemented. (Decision November 26, 2007)

20. The Commmittee resolved that the Southwell Murals on the plaster walls of the lower rotunda be concealed. (Decision November 26, 2007)

21. The Committee agreed that the Speaker would communicate with the Legislative Comptroller the increase based upon the CPI to be applied to Members' basic salary as recommended by the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation. (Decision February 27,2008)

22. The Committee resolved that the Committee being delegated the matter, approved a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. (Decision February 27, 2008)

23. The Committee agreed that when the Speaker authorizes a Member's attendance at an event where a Minister is present the Member's registration fees be reimbursed. (Decision March 4, 2008)

24. The Committee resolved that Members of the Legislative Assembly be entitled to two photographic sittings per parliament at a reasonable cost and that their best judgement be employed when using the photographs. (Decision March 4, 2008)

25. The Committee supported the view that receipts should accompany the credit card statement when it is submitted to the Legislative Comptroller for payment and that Members are authorized to use either the MLA credit card or their own personal credit card while on Legislative Assembly business. (Decision March 4, 2008)

26. The Committee resolved that the curved design in place in the Legislative Chamber on July 8, 2008 be approved as the new seating arrangement and that the physical changes necessary to effect this order by implemented expeditiously. (Decision July 8, 2008)

27. The Committee resolved that upon the death or resignation of a Member or the forfeiture of a Member's seat, the constituency office of the Member in question be closed no later than the end

of the month following the month of death, resignation or forfeiture and that the Member (or their designate as appointed by the Committee in the event of the Member's death) conclude all financial obligations in consultation with the Legislative Comptroller including but not limited to leasing, employee and asset disposition and the return of all unexpended constituency funds to Vote 1. (Decision July 8, 2008)

28. The Committee resolved that adjustments to the annual budgetary allocations of a caucus be made effective on the date the changes were made to the composition of the caucus in consultation with the Caucus Chairs. (Decision July 8, 2008)

29. The Committee resolved that the Committee endorse Standing Order 120, the disclaimer attached by Hansard Services to all video requests and displayed on the scroll of live House proceedings and authorize the Speaker to communicate with all Members to this effect. (Decision July 8, 2008)

30. The Committee resolved that renovations be undertaken to accommodate Members in the new Parliament including renovations to the Armoury at 431 Menzies Street. (Decision October 23, 2008)

31. The Committee resolved that the MLA Remuneration web pages be updated. (Decision October 23, 2008)

32. The Committee considered the current classifications for provincial ridings and agreed to address this issue for Members in the new Parliament in light of electoral boundary redistribution. (Decision October 23, 2008)

33. The Committee considered the matter of constituency office security and agreed to establish criteria Members could use when leasing office space within their constituencies. (Decision October 23, 2008)

34. The Committee considered constituency office lease termination dates and agreed that for those Members who stood for re-election and were defeated they could retain their constituency office until the last day of the month following the Provincial General Election and that their living allowance be continued to the same date. (Decision October 23, 2008)

35. The Committee considered constituency office space arising out of by-elections and agreed that leases should be arranged on a month to month basis when a Provincial General Election is within a year of the by-election being held. (Decision October 23, 2008)

36. The Committee requested the publication for Members of two brochures surrounding the long term disability plan and the pension plan (Decision October 23, 2007)

37. The Committee resolved to delegate to the Speaker the authority to revise the various administrative entitlements available to Members who are elected at the Provincial General Election in May 2009. (Decision October 23, 2008)

38. The Committee reviewed the issue of advertising by Members as a consequence of a Provincial General Election being held in May 2009 and agreed that the Speaker would communicate with all Members the guidelines and policies in effect. (Decision November 23, 2008)

39. The Committee considered the matter of placing artwork and exhibits in the Lower Rotunda and agreed that until further notice the internal administrative committee charged with arranging such displays could continue to do so in consultation with the Speaker. (Decision November 23, 2008)

40. The Committee considered the entitlements available to Members elected within a year of a Provincial General Election and the application of a transition allowance should they be defeated at the subsequent Election and agreed that:
    - The Members in question would be entitled to the minimum four months coverage, with the remaining potential eleven months prorated on the basis of their time in office as a percentage of the duration of the current parliament.
    - The committee further agreed that Members in receipt of transitional assistance would be responsible for advising the Legislative Comptroller of their employment status. (Decision November 23, 2008)

Committee Decisions by Subject, 2007-2008

Committee Administration

Committee Minutes

The Committee agreed that the Minutes of its meetings would be approved at a subsequent meeting of the Committee. (Decision March 26, 2007)

Role of Speaker

The Committee resolved to delegate to the Speaker the authority to revise the various administrative entitlements available to Members who are elected at the Provincial General Election in May 2009. (Decision October 23, 2008)

Constituency Offices

Constituency Office Rent and Leases

The Committee considered constituency office space arising out of by-elections and agreed that leases should be arranged on a month to month basis when a Provincial General Election is within a year of the by-election being held. (Decision October 23, 2008)

Disposition of Constituency Offices

The Committee considered constituency office lease termination dates and agreed that for those Members who stood for re-election and were defeated they could retain their constituency office until the last day of the month following the Provincial General Election and that their living allowance be continued to the same date. (Decision October 23, 2008)

The Committee resolved that upon the death or resignation of a Member or the forfeiture of a Member's seat, the constituency office of the Member in question be closed no later than the end of the month following the month of death, resignation or forfeiture and that the Member (or their designate as appointed by the Committee in the event of the Member's death) conclude all financial obligations in consultation with the Legislative Comptroller including but not limited to leasing, employee and asset disposition and the return of all unexpended constituency funds to Vote 1. (Decision July 8, 2008)

Security Systems

The Committee considered the matter of constituency office security and agreed to establish criteria Members could use when leasing office space within their constituencies. (Decision October 23, 2008)

Members' Benefits

Disability Plan

The Committee resolved that the long term disability plan prepared by Russell and Associates be implemented. (Decision November 26, 2007)

The Committee resolved that the Committee being delegated the matter, approved a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. (Decision February 27, 2008)

The Committee requested the publication for Members of two brochures surrounding the long term disability plan and the pension plan (Decision October 23, 2007)

Transition Allowance

The Committee considered the entitlements available to Members elected within a year of a Provincial General Election and the application of a transition allowance should they be defeated at the subsequent Election and agreed that:

- The Members in question would be entitled to the minimum four months coverage, with the remaining potential eleven months prorated on the basis of their time in office as a percentage of the duration of the current parliament.

- The committee further agreed that Members in receipt of transitional assistance would be responsible for advising the Legislative Comptroller of their employment status. (Decision November 23, 2008)

Members' Business Travel

The Committee agreed that when the Speaker authorizes a Member's attendance at an event where a Minister is present the Member's registration fees be reimbursed. (Decision March 4, 2008)

The Committee agreed that effective immediately the cost of registration for Members who attend events including but not limited to conferences and seminars will be charged to their constituency funding or caucus global funding accounts and that in attending such events the Member's travel costs will continue to be reimbursed. The Speaker can approve the reimbursement of registration fees from central funding upon application to the Speaker. (Decision October 22, 2007)

Members' Indemnities and Allowances

Caucus Funding Formula

The Committee resolved that adjustments to the annual budgetary allocations of a caucus be made effective on the date the changes were made to the composition of the caucus in consultation with the Caucus Chairs. (Decision July 8, 2008).

Communication Allowance

The Committee reviewed the issue of advertising by Members as a consequence of a Provincial General Election being held in May 2009 and agreed that the Speaker would communicate with all Members the guidelines and policies in effect. (Decision November 23, 2008).

Constituency Allowance

The Committee considered the current classifications for provincial ridings and agreed to address this issue for Members in the new Parliament in light of electoral boundary redistribution. (Decision October 23, 2008)

Members' Indemnity Allowance

The Committee agreed that the Speaker would communicate with the Legislative Comptroller the increase based upon the CPI to be applied to Members' basic salary as recommended by the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation. (Decision February 27, 2008).

Members' Photographs

The Committee resolved that Members of the Legislative Assembly be entitled to two photographic sittings per parliament at a reasonable cost and that their best judgement be employed when using the photographs. (Decision March 4, 2008).

MLA Credit Cards

The Committee supported the view that receipts should accompany the credit card statement when it is submitted to the Legislative Comptroller for payment and that Members are authorized to use either the MLA credit card or their own personal credit card while on Legislative Assembly business. (Decision March 4, 2008).

Parliament Buildings

Facilities and Space Review

The Committee resolved that renovations be undertaken to accommodate Members in the new Parliament including renovations to the Armoury at 431 Menzies Street. (Decision October 23, 2008).

The Committee resolved that the curved design in place in the Legislative Chamber on July 8, 2008 be approved as the new seating arrangement and that the physical changes necessary to effect this order by implemented expeditiously. (Decision July 8, 2008).

The Committee agreed to further investigate the impact of the renovation, restoration and seismic upgrade plans for the Parliament Buildings upon the precinct generally and the Legislative Library specifically; in particular, the effect the project might have on the architectural structure and temporary dislocation of the collections and staff in the Legislative Library. (Decision March 26, 2007).

Murals

The Committee considered the matter of placing artwork and exhibits in the Lower Rotunda and agreed that until further notice the internal administrative committee charged with arranging such displays could continue to do so in consultation with the Speaker. (Decision November 23, 2008).

The Commmittee resolved that the Southwell Murals on the plaster walls of the lower rotunda be concealed. (Decision November 26, 2007).

The Committee agreed to have screens placed in front of the Southwell Murals while onsite testing continues regarding their removal. (Decision October 22, 2007).

The Committee agreed to have screens placed in front of the Southwell Murals while onsite testing continues regarding their removal. (Decision October 17, 2007).

Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation (April 2007)

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #11 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted in relation to the advice provided by the Legislative Comptroller. (Decision June 29, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #8 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #9 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #10 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #11 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #12 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #13 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #14 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #15 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #16 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #17 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee resolved that Recommendation #18 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted. (Decision June 22, 2007).

The Committee agreed that it should approve an implementation plan based on the adoption of the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation. (Decision June 22, 2007).

Technology and Communications

Broadcasting of House Proceedings

The Committee resolved that the Committee endorse Standing Order 120, the disclaimer attached by Hansard Services to all video requests and displayed on the scroll of live House proceedings and authorize the Speaker to communicate with all Members to this effect. (Decision July 8, 2008).

Legislative Assembly Website

The Committee resolved that the MLA Remuneration web pages be updated. (Decision October 23, 2008)

Minutes of Proceedings, 2007-2008

Wednesday, November 23, 2008
9:30 am, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:
Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA

Unavoidably absent:
Hon. M. de Jong, MLA

Others Present:
Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller; Roy Stuart, Managing Consultant, Hewitt Associates; John Cook, Chair, Public Service Pension Board of Trustees

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed issues relating to age and the inclusion of certain Members in the MLA Pensions Plan.

   Witnesses
   Roy Stuart, Managing Consultant, Hewitt Associates
   John Cook, Chair, Public Service Pension Board of Trustees
3. The Committee reviewed a proposal regarding the cabling of various parts of the Parliament Buildings and deferred this matter to a subsequent meeting.
4. The Committee reviewed the issue of advertising by Members as a consequence of a Provincial General Election being held in May 2009 and agreed that the Speaker would communicate with all Members the guidelines and policies in effect.
5. The Committee considered the issue of security in Constituency Offices and a protocol to be observed by all Members in the next Parliament.
6. The Committee reviewed riding designations and deferred this matter to a subsequent meeting.
7. The Committee considered the matter of placing artwork and exhibits in the Lower Rotunda and agreed that until further notice the internal administrative committee charged with arranging such displays could continue to do so in consultation with the Speaker.
8. The Committee considered the entitlements available to Members elected within a year of a Provincial General Election and the application of a transition allowance should they be defeated at the subsequent Election and agreed that:

   The Members in question would be entitled to the minimum four months coverage, with the remaining potential eleven months prorated on the basis of their time in office as a percentage of the duration of the current parliament.

   The committee further agreed that Members in receipt of transitional assistance would be responsible for advising the Legislative Comptroller of their employment status.
9. The Committee adjourned at 11:15 am to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Thursday, October 23, 2008

9:00 am, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA

Unavoidably absent:

Hon. M. de Jong, MLA

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed accommodation requirements for Members in the 39th Parliament as a result of an increase to 85 seats in the House.
3. **Resolved**, that renovations be undertaken to accommodate Members in the new Parliament including renovations to the Armoury at 431 Menzies Street.
4. The Committee reviewed the Legislative Assembly's website relating to the posting of MLA remuneration data.
5. **Resolved**, that the MLA Remuneration web pages be updated.
6. The Committee considered the current classifications for provincial ridings and agreed to address this issue for Members in the new Parliament in light of electoral boundary redistribution.
7. The Committee considered the matter of constituency office security and agreed to establish criteria Members could use when leasing office space within their constituencies.
8. The Committee considered constituency office lease termination dates and agreed that for those Members who stood for re-election and were defeated they could retain their constituency office until the last day of the month following the Provincial General Election and that their living allowance be continued to the same date.
9. The Committee considered constituency office space arising out of by-elections and agreed that leases should be arranged on a month to month basis when a Provincial General Election is within a year of the by-election being held.
10. The Committee requested the publication for Members of two brochures surrounding the long term disability plan and the pension plan.
11. The Committee considered matters arising out of the establishment of a constituency office or offices including but not limited to in-constituency travel allowances, furniture and equipment, lease arrangements and supplies provided by the Legislative Assembly as well as other administrative entitlements currently available to Members.
12. **Resolved**, that the Committee delegate to the Speaker the authority to revise the various administrative entitlements available to Members who are elected at the Provincial General Election in May 2009.
11. The Committee adjourned at 10:40 am to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

11:00 am, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Unavoidably absent:

Ms. J. Kwan, MLA

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee considered the seating arrangement in the Legislative Chamber as a result of an increase in the number of MLA's at the Provincial General Election in 2009.
3. **Resolved**, that the curved design in place in the Legislative Chamber on July 8, 2008 be approved as the new seating arrangement and that the physical changes necessary to effect this order by implemented expeditiously.
4. The Committee considered issues surrounding the resignation of a Member of the Legislative Assembly and the status of their constituency office.
5. **Resolved**, that upon the death or resignation of a Member or the forfeiture of a Member's seat, the constituency office of the Member in question be closed no later than the end of the month following the month of death, resignation or forfeiture and that the Member (or their designate as appointed by the Committee in the event of the Member's death) conclude all financial obligations in consultation with the Legislative Comptroller including but not limited to leasing, employee and asset disposition and the return of all unexpended constituency funds to Vote 1.
6. The Committee considered changes to caucus composition and its effect on caucus budgets.
7. **Resolved**, that adjustments to the annual budgetary allocations of a caucus be made effective on the date the changes were made to the composition of the caucus in consultation with the Caucus Chairs.
8. The Committee considered the posting of video clips derived from House proceedings on Internet websites by Members and their staff.
9. **Resolved,** that the Committee endorse Standing Order 120, the disclaimer attached by Hansard Services to all video requests and displayed on the scroll of live House proceedings and authorize the Speaker to communicate with all Members to this effect.
10. The Committee adjourned at 12:35 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Tuesday, March 4, 2008

4:00 pm, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA

Unavoidably absent:

Hon. M. de Jong, MLA

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee continued its consideration of the process for the reimbursement of registration fees incurred by Members once they are authorized to attend these events.
3. The Committee agreed that when the Speaker authorizes a Member's attendance at an event where a Minister is present the Member's registration fees be reimbursed.
4. The Committee received a further progress report on the implementation of a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly.
5. The Committee deferred to the Speaker the application of long term disability for Members in the current parliament who may lack coverage.
6. The Committee considered the matter of MLA photographs.
7. **Resolved**, that Members of the Legislative Assembly be entitled to two photographic sittings per parliament at a reasonable cost and that their best judgement be employed when using the photographs.
8. The Committee considered the use of MLA credit cards.
9. The Committee supported the view that receipts should accompany the credit card statement when it is submitted to the Legislative Comptroller for payment and that Members are authorized to use either the MLA credit card or their own personal credit card while on Legislative Assembly business.
10. The Committee adjourned at 5:30 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

3:30 pm, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller.

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee agreed that the Speaker would communicate with the Legislative Comptroller the increase based upon the CPI to be applied to Members' basic salary as recommended by the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation.
3. The Committee continued its review of a long disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly.

4. **Resolved**, that the Committee being delegated the matter, approved a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.
5. The Committee continued its consideration of the process for the reimbursement of conference fees incurred by Members when they are authorized to attend these events.
6. The Committee adjourned at 5:00 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Monday, November 26, 2007

2:30 pm, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller;

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee continued its review of a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly.
3. **Resolved**, that the long term disability plan prepared by Russell and Associates be implemented.
4. The Committee continued its review on the disposition of the Southwell Murals.
5. **Resolved,** that the Southwell Murals on the plaster walls of the lower rotunda be concealed.
6. The Committee adjourned at 4:00 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Monday, October 22, 2007

2:30 pm, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller; John Cook, Chair, BC Pension Board.

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee received a briefing from Mr. John Cook, Chair of the BC Pension Board regarding the implementation of the Members' Pension Plan.
3. The Committee considered a draft report prepared by Russell and Associates regarding a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly.
4. The Committee agreed that effective immediately the cost of registration for Members who attend events including but not limited to conferences and seminars will be charged to their constituency funding or caucus global funding accounts and that in attending such events the Member's travel costs will continue to be reimbursed. The Speaker can approve the reimbursement of registration fees from central funding upon application to the Speaker.

5. The Committee agreed to have screens placed in front of the Southwell Murals while onsite testing continues regarding their removal.
6. The Committee considered employment opportunities within the Legislative Assembly.
7. The Committee adjourned at 4:00 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

12:00 noon, Speaker's Dining Room, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee received a status report from the Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees regarding Members' pensions.
3. The Committee received a status report from the Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees regarding a long term disability plan for Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.
4. The Committee received a status report from the Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees regarding the referral by the House to the Legislative Assembly Management Committee on the implementation of the recommendations contained in a report entitled, "A Review of the Depiction of Aboriginal Peoples in the Artworks of the Parliament Buildings'"
5. The Committee agreed to have screens placed in front of the Southwell Murals while onsite testing continues regarding their removal.
6. The Committee considered employment opportunities within the Legislative Assembly.
7. The Committee adjourned at 1:00 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Friday, June 29, 2007

5:00 pm, Telephone Conference Call, within British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee continued its consideration of the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation.
3. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

   That Recommendation #11 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted in relation to the advice provided by the Legislative Comptroller.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

4. The Committee adjourned at 5:45 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and
Clerk Assistant

Friday, June 22, 2007

9:30 am, Telephone Conference Call, within British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

Others Present:

Dan Arbic, Legislative Comptroller

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee continued its consideration of the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation.
3. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

   That Recommendation #8 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

   A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

4. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

   That Recommendation #9 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

   A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

5. It was moved by Mr. Yap,

   That Recommendation #10 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

6. It was moved by Mr. Yap,

That Recommendation #11 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

7. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #12 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

8. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #13 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

9. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #14 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

10. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #15 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

11. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #16 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

12. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #17 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

13. It was moved by Mr. Hawes,

That Recommendation #18 in the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation be adopted.

A debate arising and the question being put it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

Yeas (4)	*Nays (2)*
Barisoff	Farnworth
de Jong	Kwan
Yap	
Hawes	

14. The Committee agreed that it should approve an implementation plan based on the adoption of the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation.

15. The Committee adjourned at 10:35 am to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

12:30 pm, Speaker's Office, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Speaker and Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee considered the Report of the Independent Commission to Review MLA Compensation.
3. The Committee adjourned at 1:45 pm to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and
Clerk Assistant

Monday, March 26, 2007

10:30 am, Douglas Fir Committee Room, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia

Members Present:

Hon. B. Barisoff, MLA, Chair; Hon. M. de Jong, MLA; Mr. John Yap, MLA; Mr. R. Hawes, MLA; Ms. J. Kwan, MLA; Mr. M. Farnworth, MLA.

1. The Committee approved its agenda for today's meeting.
2. The Committee agreed that the Minutes of its meetings would be approved at a subsequent meeting of the Committee.
3. The Committee agreed to further investigate the impact of the renovation, restoration and seismic upgrade plans for the Parliament Buildings upon the precinct generally and the Legislative Library specifically; in particular, the effect the project might have on the architectural structure and temporary dislocation of the collections and staff in the Legislative Library.
4. The Committee adjourned at 11:10 am to the call of the Chair.

Hon. Bill Barisoff, MLA
Speaker and Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant

Appendix

Legislative Assembly Management Committee Act (RSBC 1996, C. 258)

Contents

Section

1 Definitions
2 Continuation of the committee
3 Powers and duties of the committee
4 Powers and duties of the Speaker
5 Proceedings and business
6 Dissolution of Legislative Assembly
6.1 Appropriation
7 Conflicts
8 Power to make regulations

Schedule

Definitions

1 In this Act:

"**additional party**" means a political party with 4 or more members in the Legislative Assembly but does not include the government party or official opposition party;

"**chair of the Government Caucus**" means the member of the Legislative Assembly designated as such by the government party;

"**chair of the Official Opposition Caucus**" means the member of the Legislative Assembly designated as such by the official opposition party;

"**committee**" means the Legislative Assembly Management Committee continued by section 2;

"**Confederation Garden Park**" means the park described in the Schedule;

"**Government House Leader**" means the member of the Executive Council named as such by the Premier;

"**legislative grounds**" means the area bounded by Belleville, Menzies, Superior and Government Streets in the City of Victoria, British Columbia;

"**Legislative Precinct**" means

(a) the Parliament Buildings,

(a.1) the legislative grounds and Confederation Garden Park,

(b) other buildings in Victoria or parts of them that are from time to time occupied and used by members of the Legislative Assembly for the purpose of their parliamentary duties including any premises from time to time occupied by officers and staff of the Legislative Assembly, and

(c) other land or buildings or both, other than constituency offices, designated by minute of the committee;

"**Opposition House Leader**" means the member of the Legislative Assembly named as such by the Leader of the Official Opposition;

"**Speaker**" means, subject to section 6, the person holding office as such under section 37 of the *Constitution Act*.

Continuation of the committee

2 (1) The Legislative Assembly Management Committee is continued consisting of the following members of the Legislative Assembly:

(a) the Speaker;

(b) the minister;

(c) the Government House Leader;

(d) the chair of the Government Caucus;

(e) the Opposition House Leader;

(f) the chair of the Official Opposition Caucus;

(g) one member appointed from each additional party by the members of that party;

(h) for each member appointed under paragraph (g) one additional government member from the Government Caucus appointed by the Government House Leader.

(2) The members of the committee referred to in subsection (1) (g) and (h) must be appointed within 45 days from the general voting day for the general election that preceded the Parliament.

(3) The first meeting of the committee must be held within 14 days of the appointment of the members referred to in subsection (1) (g) and (h).

(4) A member of the committee referred to in subsection (1) (b) to (h) may appoint a designate to take the member's place at a meeting of the committee.

(5) The Speaker is the chair of the committee and in the Speaker's absence the Deputy Speaker may act as chair and, with respect to the business of the committee, exercise the powers of the Speaker.

(6) A quorum of the committee is 5 members of the committee consisting of

(a) the Speaker, or in the Speaker's absence, the Deputy Speaker,

(b) 3 of the persons referred to in subsection (1) (b), (c), (d) or (h), and

(c) one of the persons referred to in subsection (1) (e), (f) or (g).

(7) Each member of the committee other than the chair has a vote, and if the votes are equal the chair has a deciding vote.

(8) The members of the committee or their designates must attend all meetings of the committee as and when called by the chair, unless prevented from doing so by illness or for other unavoidable reason.

Powers and duties of the committee

3 (1) The committee has jurisdiction to deal with all matters affecting

(a) subject to any other enactment and any rules of conduct established by the Legislative Assembly, policies for the administration of the Legislative Assembly and for the conduct of the members of the Legislative Assembly,

(b) the provision of facilities and services, including allocation within the Legislative Precinct, that are required for the effective functioning of the Legislative Assembly,

(c) the appointment, supervision and management of staff of the Legislative Assembly, other than permanent officers of the Legislative Assembly,

(d) review of estimates of expenditure for the Legislative Assembly for Vote 1 including the preparation of forecasts and analyses of expenditures and commitments of the Legislative Assembly,

(d.1) payments of Capital City allowance to members of the Legislative Assembly,

(d.2) [Repealed 2007-23-16.]

(d.3) the voluntary group registered retirement savings plan that was established by the committee for members of the Legislative Assembly,

(e) payments to members of the Legislative Assembly to defray expenses in the performance of their duties, including

(i) expenses for residence in the Capital Regional District during the legislative session and for any additional periods specified by the committee,

(ii) protocol expenses,

(iii) travel and associated expenses of the members and persons accompanying the members, and

(iv) expenses for service on legislative committees when the Legislative Assembly is not sitting,

(f) payments or services to members for constituency offices, including payments or services for staffing, maintaining the offices, communication expenses and travel expenses,

(f.1) a severance allowance for persons when they cease to be members of the Legislative Assembly, and for this purpose may establish a severance plan that sets out the circumstances in which such persons will be eligible for the allowance, the amounts of the allowance payments, and any other matter related to severance,

(f.2) when and how

(i) payments referred to in paragraphs (d.1), (e), (f) and (f.1) are required to be provided by the government, and

(ii) amounts required to be contributed by the government under the terms of the plan described in paragraph (d.3) are to be paid, and

(g) other matters necessary for the efficient and effective operation and management of the Legislative Assembly.

(1.1) [Repealed 2007-23-16.]

(1.2) Despite the *Income Tax Act*, a Capital City allowance payable to a member under subsection (1) (d.1) is deemed not to be wages within the meaning of that Act, and not to form part of the income of that member for any purpose of that Act.

(2) Subsection (1) (b) does not empower the committee to allocate space or provide services within the Legislative Precinct that are necessary for

(a) ministerial offices,

(b) ministerial administration and support staff, or

(c) the functioning of the Executive Council.

Powers and duties of the Speaker

4 (1) Subject to any direction of the committee, the Speaker is responsible for the day to day administration of the Legislative Assembly.

(1.1) In accordance with the regulations, the Speaker is responsible for the

(a) provision of security within the Legislative Precinct, and

(b) management of the use and enjoyment of the Legislative Precinct by the public and by other persons.

(2) The committee may delegate any of its powers to the Speaker.

Proceedings and business

5 (1) The committee may determine its own procedures.

(2) The committee speaks by minute duly adopted by the committee.

(3) The committee may authorize payment of reasonable and actual expenses incurred by its members

(a) for attendance at meetings of the committee while the Legislative Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, or

(b) while engaged in the work of the committee while the Legislative Assembly is adjourned or prorogued.

(4) The committee must have its accounts or financial procedures examined and reported on each fiscal year by a qualified person or firm appointed by the committee.

(5) A member of the public service is not eligible to be appointed under subsection (4).

(6) The Auditor General may examine the accounts and financial procedures of the committee and report to the Speaker at the times that the Auditor General considers appropriate.

(7) Subsection (6) does not restrict the Auditor General from reporting to the Legislative Assembly on any other matter that the Auditor General considers to be in the public interest including the matters within the jurisdiction of the committee under section 3.

(8) The committee must promptly file its minutes and the reports referred to in subsections (4) and (6) with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly who must

(a) make the minutes and reports available to any person for inspection without charge and during normal business hours, and

(b) provide a copy of the minutes and reports on payment of a reasonable copying charge.

(9) The committee must report annually to the Legislative Assembly on the decisions made by the committee during the previous year.

(10) The report under subsection (9) must include the reports referred to in subsections (4) and (6).

Dissolution of Legislative Assembly

6 (1) After general voting day for a general election, the person holding the office of Speaker immediately before general voting day is deemed for the purposes of this Act to continue in office as Speaker until a Speaker designate is named.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the Speaker is not re-elected at the general election, and in that event the person who last held the office of Deputy Speaker is for the purposes of this Act deemed to be the Speaker until a Speaker designate is named.

(3) If a Speaker designate is named, he or she is deemed to be Speaker for the purposes of this Act.

(4) If neither the Speaker nor the Deputy Speaker is re-elected at the general election, a committee consisting of the minister, the Government House Leader and the Opposition House Leader must carry on the day to day administration of the Legislative Assembly until a Speaker designate is named.

Appropriation

6.1 Money required to be provided by or paid on behalf of the government under this Act must be provided or paid by the Minister of Finance from money appropriated for that purpose by

the Legislative Assembly or, in the absence of an adequate appropriation for that purpose, from the consolidated revenue fund.

Conflicts

7 If there is any conflict or inconsistency between

(a) this Act or a minute of the committee issued under this Act, and

(b) the *Financial Administration Act* or any regulation or directive made or given under it,

then, despite the *Financial Administration Act*, this Act or the minute of the committee prevails.

Power to make regulations

8 (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations as follows:

(a) providing for the security of the Legislative Precinct;

(b) regulating, permitting or prohibiting use of the Legislative Precinct by the public or by other persons.

(2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations establishing penalties for failure to comply with the regulations made under this section.

Schedule

CONFEDERATION GARDEN PARK

All those parcels of land in the City of Victoria with the following legal descriptions:

Parcel Identifier: 009-386-980
Lot 890, Victoria City
Parcel Identifier: 009-387-021
Lot 891, Victoria City
Parcel Identifier: 009-387-030
Lot 894, Victoria City
Parcel Identifier: 009-387-056
Lot 995, Victoria City.